

REMARKS

This amendment is in the nature of a request for reconsideration.

The references Smyers, Jr., et al., Herman et al., Rebold, and Harper utilized in the rejection of claims 1-9 are not torque controlled.

It is noted that the Office Letter states that the power tool is not being claimed as part of the invention. Claims 1, (dependent claims 2, 4, and 5), and claim 8 recite in the combination a torque controlled nutrunner to which specific type power tool of the present invention is directed.

The present tool design has evolved to a specific design to meet torque controlled fastener installation requirements. This includes having a small, gear driven head and a retention post (versus a ball detent). The present apparatus works in conjunction with each of these, and fulfills the socket release requirement in a way that the other patents of record individually or in combination do not.

The present apparatus includes claims directed to a solution to the problem of sockets inadvertently falling off (see claims 3 and 7) during use by locking the retention post in the extended position. This is accomplished (see claim 8) by utilizing the angle of the inclines surfaces (see claim 6) of the perpendicular sliding members to lock the retention post in the extended position until the spring-loaded pushbutton pin is depressed. The post cannot be forced to retract without depressing the spring-loaded pushbutton pin, unlike the referenced patents.

The rejection of claim 8, detailing with specificity applicant's contribution is based on the three references, Smyers, Jr. et al., Rebold and Harper, which the rejection states it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill to combine. The Rebold apparatus is not torque controlled and is in fact powered by an oscillating pneumatic motor unreliable in torque applications. In contrast, the present apparatus accomplishes socket removal without affecting torque reliability of **gear driven** torque tools.

A new claim 9 was added positively reciting the combination in the **nutrunner** art not seen in the references and is also believed allowable.

Recognition of patent subject matter in the claims proffered for the Examiner's consideration is appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



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